

NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES

The salary of the postmaster at Butte has been increased to \$1,100 per year.

David C. Dodd of Omaha has secured an appointment as railway postal clerk.

H. A. Priddy has been recommended by Senator Millard for postmaster at Harlan, Sioux county.

Miss Sarah Grabbill of Ayr was brought to Hastings and adjudged insane. She will be taken to Lincoln.

The postoffices at Spiker and Orum, Washington county, and Underwood, Hall county, have been discontinued.

Major John P. Baker, paymaster of the Department of the Missouri, has been granted a leave of absence of two months.

The visiting bankers of group six of the State Bankers' association were entertained at a banquet at the Kochler hotel at Grand Island.

A herd of cattle belonging to O. S. Christian, northeast of Madison, are affected with blackleg and a number of the animals have died.

Omaha lodge No. 5, of the local Masons at Dakota City, presented Grand Master the Rev. E. Evans, with a solid gold gavel at their meeting Saturday evening.

Through the efforts of Congressman Burkett, Miss Olive Jack of Otoe county has secured a position in the congressional library. There were 100 applicants for the place.

A bill has been introduced by Representative Mercer providing for the macadamizing of the Fort Crook boulevard from the fort to the city limits of South Omaha, at a cost of \$60,000.

A bill authorizing the construction of a pontoon bridge across the Missouri river in Sarpy county by the Plattsmouth Pontoon Bridge company has been introduced by Congressman Burkett.

David Guthrie has applied for a receiver for the firm of Guthrie Brothers. The application is made because the two brothers in the milling company cannot agree as to the division of the business.

Prof. J. E. Hicks was re-elected superintendent of schools for the fifth year by unanimous vote of the school board at Monroe. Miss Fannie E. Weeks and Miss Gertrude Fellows were also re-elected.

The Grand Island board of education elected forty teachers for the ensuing year and fixed the salaries, making an increase, on the same number of teachers, of about \$300 a year.

Harry Wilson was convicted of highway robbery at Schuyler. Wilson secured \$30 from Ed Dugan at the point of a revolver. He claimed that the money belonged to him, having been stolen by Dugan.

The commencement exercises of the Battle Creek High school were held at the opera house. There were eight graduates, all young women. Rev. Leedom of the Methodist Episcopal church addressed the class.

The semi-annual convention of the disciples of Christ in the Fifth district of Nebraska, which was to have been held at Wymore May 26 to 29, has been changed and will be held at Beatrice on the same dates.

Henry Schutte, living four miles west of Hickman, rescued his 2-year-old son Sunday afternoon from a large rattlesnake. The snake had bitten the boy and was preparing to strike again, when the father killed the reptile.

Globe lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Madison, held an election of officers last week. Chris Schaviani was re-elected master for a third term; M. B. Foster, senior warden; Ed Fricke, junior warden; E. F. Prince, treasurer, and R. A. Maloney, secretary.

During a hard rain storm at Hastings lightning struck the steeple of the German Presbyterian church and shattered it quite badly, besides tearing a large hole in the west side of the building where the bolt made its exit.

Madison Fleck of Linwood is on trial at Schuyler, being held responsible for the death of Mrs. Rimes and her niece, who were drowned in the Platte river. Their team backed off the bridge when Fleck was passing them on the structure.

Senator Dietrich has introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of war to present to the city of Hastings the condemned cannon to be used in the construction of a monument in memory of the late James Laird, a former congressman from this state.

Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock has been authorized by a bill now in the hands of the senate committee, to sell to the city of Valentine, Neb., a

In Justice Spencer's court at Dakota City the case against E. A. Burness, manager of the Grain, Beet and Preserving company of South Sioux City, charging him with adultery, was dismissed, the complainant not appearing.

John Tobin and John Eaton, the two men who were arrested at Dakota City for robbing the house of F. A. Robinson, were sentenced to fifteen days in jail by County Judge Elmore. Tobin gave his home as Galesburg, Ill., and Eaton had Oak, Ia.

CRISIS IN IRELAND.

OIL POCKETS ARE OPENED BY NITRO GLYCERINE.

Submarine Oil Fields Of California Coast Being Operated Exclusively Promise Large Output.

San Francisco letter: One of the most peculiar kinds of mining carried on in this country is the sinking of submarine oil wells along the Pacific coast. Although these wells do not go miles under the sea as do the coal mines in Durham and Northumberland counties in England under the German ocean, they probably will do so before the extent of the deposits has been reached.

In fact some engineers are inclined to believe that there are located in the bed of this part of the Pacific ocean enormous oil deposits, the gradual leakage from which has been largely responsible for the remarkable placidity of this greatest division of the world's waters.

It is only recently that much has been done toward the getting of the products of these submarine wells, which are likely to prove among the most prolific in the world. The most active operations are being carried on at Summerland, Santa Barbara, Cal., where hundreds of derricks are in progress, many of which are in active operation. The derricks are used for bringing the oil deposits taken from the wells to the surface of the sea. They are very similar to the ordinary pattern of derrick and present a very formidable appearance along the coast, where they stretch, apparently, for miles. Some of the apparatus is rigged close to the shore, while others can be reached only by means of long piers built out into the water, or by boat.

The process of getting these deposits to the surface of the water is an interesting one, involving processes similar to those carried on in ordinary mines by means of blasting materials. The oil deposit is sometimes found in a pocket, either of stone or sand, being composed of crude oil or a gaseous matter, which when tapped flies to the surface of the ocean in volumes and is caught in drip pans. Explosives are used to free these deposits so that they will float to the surface, or by boat.

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The apparatus used for these operations varies according to the depth to be tapped and the character of the deposit. The long row of derricks, supported upon tall piles and surmounted by engines, used for drilling from a picturesque vista along the sea front. The working plant is located on a wooden platform placed at the top of the piles, from which all the submerging work is directed. In other cases, where the ocean is shallow, water-tight compartments are used for the workmen. In building these, heavy timbers are used, which are sunk into the sandy ocean bed to form a boarding around the spot where it is proposed to drill the well. Divers are employed in this work and as soon as the compartment is completed the water is pumped out so as to make room for the operators.

At the outset the work of locating the deposits was found to be very difficult and many of the pioneers became much discouraged, prospecting being a matter more of luck than judgment. Now things seem to be settling down to a steady basis. Improved machinery is being built and considerable capital sunk in the enterprise. As the handling of the wells becomes reduced to a more scientific basis it is expected that large fortunes will be made out of these submarine wells.

The quality of the oil found in them is good and a large foreign demand has sprung up for it in addition to the quantities disposed of in the markets of the West.

WALTER GEOGHAN.

AUSTRALIA WANTS TRADE.

She is Going to Build Railroads and Steamships With Which to Compete With Us.

Australia does not propose to be behind-hand in the race for Far Eastern trade. It has already planned a railroad which, together with a new steamship line, is to put it directly in connection with the trans-Siberian and trans-Manchurian railroads, now nearing completion. The bulk of the Australian population is concentrated in the southeastern corner of the continent, and there are no continuous railroad systems except along the coast from Adelaide through Melbourne, Sidney and Brisbane to Rockbourne, half way up the eastern coast. But from each of these large towns railroads run toward the interior some 500 miles, the longest being the road from Adelaide some 700 miles north. From the end of that road there is a transcontinental highway and telegraph line to Port Darwin, on the north coast. It is proposed to extend the Melbourne-Adelaide railway along this route, making Port Darwin the principal port for the Asiatic trade by means of a subsidized line of steamships running to Port Arthur, the terminus of the Manchurian line, a distance of about 3,000 miles. An alternative proposition is to connect the roads running into the interior from Sidney and Brisbane and continue the line to Port Darwin. This project involves more construction, but has the advantage of reaching directly the three largest cities and all of the most densely populated districts. If carried out this railroad-steamship project will make Manila a port of call and add considerably to its commercial importance.—St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

Clarence—Well, were your friends, Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Dobbs, congenial?

Clara—Oh, Clarence, each found an opportunity to tell me that the other was the biggest talker she had ever met.—Detroit Free Press.

An Opening for Revenge.—Harry—Harriet, don't you be so naughty with those people next door! Harriet—Why not? Harry—First thing you know they'll offer you a dollar more and get her away from us.—Puck.

LAST CENTURY BOSSISM.

No National Convention Till Close of Jackson's Term.

E. E. Hale, in the Outlook: The men who made the state constitution and the United States constitution had no idea of the universal suffrage with which we are familiar. Massachusetts was so far advanced in such matters as any of the states. Massachusetts had begun with confiding the suffrage to church members, and they were only admitted to vote by the consent of a majority of those already voters. In 1780, in the constitution of which John Adams is the real author, Massachusetts gave suffrage to land owners, or to persons with an amount of property on which they paid taxes.

By the national act of 1798 no foreign emigrant could be received to suffrage on less than fourteen years' probation, and this after five years' previous declaration of intention to become a citizen. One can see how effective were the limitations by the small number of voters as compared with the whole population. It was like a vote in Mississippi today, where 6,000 voters choose the representatives of 200,000 people.

What followed on this limitation of suffrage was that the two great parties were simply two rival aristocracies. There is something ludicrous now in reading the private letters of the real leaders on both sides. They take it as entirely for granted, each, that the party will do what half a dozen leaders determine on; as Mr. Croker, in 1900, took it for granted that Tammany would do what he determined on. Indeed, there was no popular convention or any other method by which the rank and file of the voters could express any opinion, and they had none. But practically they had none. The condition of affairs in South Carolina up to Mr. Tillman's reign is a good enough illustration of the way in which every state was managed up till 1829. "Some of us get together at Columbia after the commencement and arrange the politics for the next year." Such was the convenient fashion everywhere in which things were managed all along the line, between the west and the east, between the suffrage means or what democratic government is.

Up till the close of Gen. Jackson's presidency no such thing was heard of as a national convention for the choice of a candidate. Somebody had to make such a choice; and, for want of a better, a meeting of the members of congress named the candidates of either party. So it was that in 1825 Gen. Jackson and John Quincy Adams and Mr. Crawford and Mr. Wirt divided the electoral votes. But as soon as Gen. Jackson withdrew, having named Mr. Van Buren as his successor, all the enthusiasm of the democratic party departed with Old Hickory. Poor Van Buren had to face the terrible storm of the commercial crisis of 1837. The fault was none of his, excepting as the industrial states of America are always at fault when they interest their business to those states where nobody can mend a water pail, or to statesmen who do not know a bill of lading from a bill of exchange, or of men who "know nothing of trade," as the excellent Monroe said. In the crisis of 1837 half the business firms in the country were bankrupt and half its industries were destroyed, of which the consequence was that the industrial states, that is, New England, the west and the great states between, took their affairs for once into their own hands.

When they called together the great conventions of 1839 and 1840 the reign of oligarchies and caucuses of congressmen was over, and the reign of the voters began.

THE POPPY.

Golden Blossoms That Greeted the California Pioneers.

Home and Flowers: Far out at sea, gleaming sheets of dazzling gold arrested the gaze of the early explorers of California. Blazing along the Pacific coast, embroidered the green foothills of the snow-capped Sierra Madres, transforming acres and acres of treeless plains into royal cloth of gold, millions of flowers of every texture and color of gold fascinated the Spanish discoverer. An eminent botanist, Eschscholtz, at once classified the plant, and his followers conferred his name upon this, the only native American poppy.

Dream-like in beauty, fascinating from sheer loveliness, spreading its soft undulations over the land, the California poppy bloomed above the richest veins and arteries of gold the world has ever known, all unsuspecting. A Clree, with powers to please, dazzle and charm by its enchantments, while it allures, lulls and mystifies, this flower of sleep seemed to draw by some occult process from the earth the elixir of gold, unfolding its blossoms of gold as beacons proclaiming: "We are blooming above rich mines of gold."

There is a mystery about the poppy. It is a weird flower. It is almost sentiment, with a life unknown to human kind. "While glory guards with solemnity the bivouac of the dead," the old battlefields. Blood-red, the poppies in waves and billows hold high carnival above the soil that covers the slain. Lord Macaulay says of the battlefield of Neerwinden: "The summer after the battle the soil, fertilized by 20,000 dead, broke forth into millions of blood-red poppies. The traveler from St. Troad to Tirlemont, stretching from Landen to Neerwinden, could hardly help fancying that the figurative description of the Hebrew prophet was literally accomplished, that 'the earth was disclosing her blood and refusing to cover her slain.' Bayard Taylor, in 'The Lands of the Saracens,' says he contemplated with feelings he could not describe, 'the old battlefields of Bria, densely covered with blood-red poppies, blooming in barbaric splendor, glowing on the gore of soldiers slain.'"

However interesting the poppy may be to men of science and to lovers of the beautiful, it is yet more so to the people of California alone. Nowhere else in the world has it ever made its habitat. There it is naturally so profuse that it is related as a fact that, coming on a turn full face upon a blooming field of yellow poppies, dazzling in the sunshine, horses have been put to flight, as from the flames of fire.

Business.

"How much do I owe you, doctor?" "Eighty-nine dollars and business cents; but if you have a relapse I'll give you a discount."—Judge.



A ROMANCE OF MANY LIVES' ERRORS.

BY ERNEST DE LANCEY PIERSON.
Author "A Slave of Circumstances," "A Bargain in Souls," "The Black Ball," "The Cruel City," "A Woman's Will," "At the World's Mercy," "The Scarlet Cypher," "The Secret of the Marionettes," etc.

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CHAPTER III.

Barnett peered around, but could see no one. There were persons passing along the road beyond, but this sound came from near at hand. He was about to return to the book he had been reading a moment before when he heard the sound repeated.

"Look up please," said a low voice. Then he saw a man perched in the old apple tree near his window. He had never thought of looking there for any one.

For a moment the two men regarded each other. Barnett, for the life of him, could not remember ever having seen that grizzled face before.

"I don't know you," he said at length thinking that the man in the tree might be a newspaper reporter or a curious-minded fellow who was bent on getting a look at such a dangerous character.

"No, I know you don't know me," replied the other calmly, never taking his eyes off the young school teacher's face.

"What do you want?"

"To do you a service."

"But if you don't know me what possible interest—" began Barnett, and yet there was an earnestness about the man in the tree that fixed his attention.

You are in a close corner, young man," said the stranger.

"Did you come here to tell me that?"

"No, I am going to save you if I can, and I am pretty sure that I can."

"But I can save myself."

"I sincerely wish you could, my boy, but it may be a long time and tedious operation, and I think I may be able to oil the wheels of justice."

Barnett stared at the stranger, wondering what sort of a man he had to deal with and why a man he never saw should take such an interest in his case.

"Who are you?" he asked, bluntly.

"As I said before, I am a man simply who is ready and able, I think, to do you a good turn. You know that there is quite a pile of circumstantial evidence against you?"

"Yes, so it seems."

"With a foundation to build on they may erect a pyramid that will crush you."

"You think so?" for there was an earnestness about the stranger that did not fail to make an impression on the school teacher.

"Now justice seldom miscarries to the extent of hanging an innocent man, but you may have a good deal of trouble before you can clear yourself of the charge."

Barnett's face became grave; he was beginning to realize that what the stranger told him must be true and that his position was fraught with peril.

"There, I didn't come here to depress you, but rather to cheer you, my boy. To point out that you must not treat the matter carelessly. I wanted, too, to make your acquaintance."

Was the man mad? Barnett wondered. But he dismissed the idea as absurd, for the stranger spoke sensibly enough and his eyes were clear and bright. Well, he was not so burdened with friends that he could afford to refuse the kindly offices of even a stranger. Perhaps the man was a type of those eccentrics that spring up often when a crime is committed, and lend sympathy and funds to the cause they have espoused.

The fellow might do some good, since he spoke so confidently; at least he could do no harm. Let this eccentric person have his will if it amused him.

"You don't seem to be much of a prisoner with nothing but those wooden bars between you and liberty," remarked the stranger. A good wrench and out they would come.

"As far as I am concerned they shall remain as they are," said Barnett. "I have many privileges here that I should lose if I tried to escape, so I shall just let matters run along as they are, confident that, as I am innocent, I need have no fear."

"And what of her?"

The young man cast an inquisitorial look at him.

"What do you mean?"

"I mean Grace—Miss Ellison, I should say—she knows, of course, what has taken place."

"You know her, then?" feeling a fresh interest in the unknown.

"No, I don't know her, but it is possible that I may see her if there is any message that I can carry to her coming from you."

"Man, if you do that I am your friend for life," exclaimed the young school teacher. "Just wait and I will jot down a few words," and he turned hastily from the window.

"Make haste!" called the other, in a loud whisper.

Barnett, filled with a desire to set down the thoughts that had been uppermost in his mind since the tragedy, had no trouble in making a start on his letter. To be quick and concise was another thing. Though his pen dashed over the paper, a warning "Hist!" was a notice to draw the epistle to a close.

muttered Job, who had been watching the man intently, and was confident that he was a hunchback.

"Perhaps you will be so very kind to turn me about in the right direction for the town," quavered the alleged blind man.

"I'd rather give you a shove into the brook," was what ran through Job's mind at that moment, regretting that he had wasted his charity on such an old fraud. He took the man, however, by the arm, and set his face toward the town.

Whether he was unnecessarily rough in the operation, or whether the other stumbled, at least one thing happened—his great green spectacles fell off in the road. Job stooped and restored them to him, but as he did so he looked at the man's face and he drew away instinctively, as if overcome with a sudden fear.

"Am I all right now?" asked the other.

"All right," murmured Hendricks, who had recovered his equanimity.

"Good day."

"Good day."

The blind man blotted on, tapping the road with his cane. Job after watching him for a moment, turned and almost ran from the place.

"Could it be?" he murmured, when he was forced to pause for breath. "Could he have followed me here, and I thought that I was safe." Then he raised his hands impotently toward heaven and said: "O God, give me time—time for all that I have to do."

(To be continued.)

WIRELESS HELLOS.

The British Have Established Plants in Two Cities.

London letter: While public attention has been taken up in the United States principally with the question of wireless telegraphy, English electricians have been experimenting with great success with wireless telephony.

The result of these experiments is so wonderful as to almost induce unbelief. It seems likely that within a few months it will be possible for anyone to own their own long-distance machine, obtainable at a cost of a few pounds and use it without any restriction other than payment of a tax for the privilege to the municipality where it is operated.

The danger of one person reading another's message has been obviated by having each instrument tuned to another instrument, with which it communicates.

The English system differs radically from that used by Marconi, ripples in the electricity of earth or water being used in place of the force created by that inventor from resistance. The ripples can be produced with as much certainty as ripples can be produced in a pond by throwing a stone into it.

The inventors of this system have been experimenting in secluded spots in England for some months and have demonstrated to representatives of several European governments.

There has already been established in Glasgow a municipal plant for competitive purposes, the exchange being placed in place of the force created by that inventor from resistance.

Application is shortly to be made by the city of Manchester for powers to establish a wireless telephone service to compete with the present monopoly.

From present indications it appears that the new inventions are ultimately destined to revolutionize the telephone business.

It is now only a question of what distance the messages can be sent.

The well-known experimenter, M. Malche, who has his plant at his disposal by the Prince of Monaco, his yacht and the domain over which he rules, with the contiguous Mediterranean waters, is expected to achieve some extraordinary results.

The results of tests made by M. Malche so far are conversations transmitted one mile as distinctly as by the best ordinary telephone two and a half miles, still very distinct but apparently at the limit of perceptible intensity; as four and one-third miles, vibrations of the telephone plate distinct enough to admit of Morse signals being transmitted with utmost regularity.

Unfortunately it was impossible to continue these experiments further as it would have carried them beyond the limits of the Prince's domain.

The apparatus used by M. Malche, besides the generator, includes a peculiarly wound electrical coil, an improved microphone and a sensitive telephone.

While the transmission of Morse signals was going on a key and vibrator were substituted for the microphone.

The connections to earth from the instrument consist of either two electrodes immersed in water or electrodes embedded in damp earth. A connection is established between the two electrodes at each station by means of an insulated wire which forms a basis to connect, according as required, with either receiver or transmitter.

The advent of wireless telephony is exciting as much interest among electricians as did that of the X-ray a few years ago and many of the most expert telegraphers in Europe are busy with experiments from which almost any kind of wonderful results may be expected.

ARTHUR FIELD.

Irreparable Loss at Mount Athos.

London Pall Mall Gazette: Nothing less than an archaeological calamity has happened on Mount Athos, where 11 centuries of Byzantine art, architecture, and tradition have perished utterly in the flames. Fire broke out a few days ago in the monastery of St. Paul, and the entire building, with all its contents, was destroyed. The monastery dates back 11 centuries, its library was rich in manuscript documents of the Byzantine Emperors, and the interior was a treasure house of Byzantine art. The reliquary was full of objects of the highest legendary interest. Among other objects, it contained what a tradition of the Greek church holds to be the identical gifts presented in homage by the three wise men of the East at Bethlehem. All have perished.

Tecumseh McClure, an aged Chickasaw Indian, is dead at his home near Davis, I. T. He was a prominent Indian and had held during his life most of the important offices of the Indian government. At the time of his death he was an Indian senator. He is the third prominent Chickasaw Indian to die within the past week.